

JACK THE HUGGER

Another Notorious Brute Terrorizes Berkeley.

SUPPOSED TO BE A NEGRO

Young Girls Stopped on Their Way Home With Indecent Proposals.

Berkeley, Dec. 12.—An armed patrol of indignant citizens of Golden Gate and South Berkeley are searching for a mysterious negro, whose tactics resemble those of "Jack-the-Hugger," and who for the past three weeks has been terrorizing women and girls on the dark streets of the annexed district. So far the cowardly assailant of defenseless pedestrians has eluded the men who have been lying in wait for him, but so great is the indignation of the citizens, should the negro be caught at any of his tricks, he will very likely be filled full of lead at first sight.

Miss Hetty and Helen Herr, two pretty young girls who live with their parents at 1042 Fifty-fourth street, are the last two young ladies to have an unpleasant experience with the brute who is now terrorizing their neighborhood. They were coming to their home night before last about 9 o'clock and had just left the San Pablo-avenue car at Fifty-fourth street, when the fellow jumped out from the shadow of the trees near the corner and accosted the women. He attempted to grab them and made insulting remarks. The young ladies screamed for help and ran to their home a half block away. When they reached the house they collapsed and for a time were too frightened to give an account of what had happened. When they told their story some of the neighbors armed themselves and went out to search for the fellow, but could find no trace of him. All the description that the girls could give was that he was a negro and wore a long overcoat.

Mrs. Herr, the mother of the girls who had such a narrow escape from the clutches of the "hugger," said: "Yes, my girls were greatly frightened by this fellow, who seems to have the neighborhood wildly excited. They managed to escape from him, however, and got safely into the house. An armed patrol is searching for the wretch nearly every night, and every man out here who can carry a gun is on the lookout for him, but he seems to be able to elude them. The policemen on this beat have been wearing citizens' clothes in the hope that they could come upon the fellow unawares, but so far they have not been able to get him. No punishment is too severe for a brute like this negro appears to be, and if he is caught very short shrift will be given him. I have no permit to carry a revolver myself, but I think it would be a good thing if every woman out here could use a pistol."

It is believed that the "hugger" is one of the habitués of the Emeryville race track, and that he comes over into Golden Gate and South Berkeley at night to frighten defenseless women. Charles Klinker, Dr. W. H. Worley and F. L. Wedgewood have all laid in wait for the elusive negro, but so far have been unable to get sight of him.

SCHOOL DAY CUT.

New York Children Work on a Half Time Basis.

New York, Dec. 12.—A report is being prepared by Superintendent Maxwell for presentation to the board of education which, it is said, will be the first step toward the adoption of a three hour or a three and one half hour day for the lowest grades in all the elementary schools of this city.

The board of superintendents has been investigating as to the relative results obtained by full day classes, part time classes, morning classes and afternoon classes in the first two school years, since the beginning of November. The investigation was begun as a result of a proposal to cut down the school day in these grades by eliminating certain studies. President Tift, of the board of education, said in reference to the scheme: "While a five hour day is probably good to keep children off the streets in some parts of the city, I believe in short school days for younger children. I would give every child educational facilities great as possible but not so great as to interfere with proper mental and physical growth. More than three hours class work daily makes the children restless."

AGAINST LOCAL OPTION.

Sensational Divorce Suit Filed in an Oakland Court.

Oakland, Dec. 12.—If Herbert consumed two bottles of whiskey a night for three nights a week, how many bottles would he consume before his wife got a divorce? The answer is contained in the complaint of Mrs. Cora Falk against Herbert Falk, filed this morning, and a little figuring reduces it to 2,184 bottles, for the disap-

pearance of the refreshing beverage occupied some seven years.

Though the charge is habitual intemperance, the complaint is not "Whiskey—that's all," for there were various bombardments from an armory of weapons to disturb the quiet orchard life the wife had expected to lead. They were married at Santa Cruz in 1895 and afterward removed to Newcastle, where Falk owns an orchard of sixty-three acres, worth \$12,500. He has an income from other interests which nets him \$100 a month.

Most of the time he was so saturated with alcohol that he didn't know what he was doing, and his wife lived in constant fear of him. He frequently threatened her and seemed to take fiendish delight in discharging shot-guns, rifles and revolvers. In one of these shooting parties he was so intoxicated that he shot himself in the leg. One night, returning from town rather late, he got mad because the horse did not go fast enough to suit him, and so he killed the poor beast with a revolver. One of his specialties was rising at all hours of the night and shooting at his wife's dogs.

TAMMANY GAS BILL.

Mayor McClellan Served With a Writ of Injunction.

New York, Dec. 12.—Mayor McClellan yesterday served with a copy of the injunction issued by Justice Marean on Saturday, restraining the payment of disputed bills for city lighting until the court shall have decided if the charge made by W. R. Hearst, that the bills are exorbitant, is sustained by the evidence. The case will be argued in Brooklyn on Friday.

Borough President Littleton, of Brooklyn, a member of the board of estimates, reiterated yesterday that Controller Grout's plan for a municipal lighting plant was all buncombe.

"Unless the bill is sent to Albany provides for a municipal plant which will furnish gas to the public generally, it is impracticable," said Mr. Littleton. "When the gas company's bills were before the board of estimate last July I stated my attitude toward them, and have not changed it. I was not opposed then, to paying the company's bills, if a reasonable settlement could be obtained, but I was opposed to any settlement which should form a basis for further contracts or in any manner bind the city to a scale of excessive rates."

"Another feature of the contracts which should receive early attention is as to a possible violation of a provision that the bids of the various lighting concerns shall be without collusion. The controller stated that in his negotiation with a dozen of the leading corporations he was forced to deal with a single individual. The law states that each bid or estimate shall contain an affidavit that it is made without collusion or fraud. It would be difficult to find clearer presumptive evidence of collusion than for a dozen supposedly competitive bidders delegating one man to act for them all."

TRACKLESS TROLLEY IN BERLIN.

Experiment Seems Successful—Speedy New Engine Has Cab in Front.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—The first trackless trolley street railway has begun operations in Berlin and is apparently a success. The vehicles resemble electric omnibuses, but derive their power from an overhead trolley. They have a speed of ten miles an hour. They are equipped with a special type of wheels to prevent stoppages by snow.

Tests are being made of a new express locomotive on the railway between Berlin and Hamburg. The engine is much larger than any in service at present. The engineer occupies a wedge shaped cab in front of the engine and two firemen are in the rear. Objection is made to this isolation of the engineer on the ground that the locomotive would be uncontrolled in case of his disability. The engine has a speed of one hundred miles an hour hauling three coaches.

Unable to Make Speed.

Glasgow, Dec. 12.—The trials of the Allan Line steamer Victorian, the largest turbine vessel yet built, which was launched at Belfast on August 25, have been so disappointing as to raise serious doubts among the Clyde shipbuilders of the value of turbines on large ships. All the efforts made to get the Victorian near contract speed were futile. It is understood that the construction of the turbine engines intended for the new Cunard Line steamers has been suspended. A sister ship of the Victorian will be launched next month. The two vessels were built on the understanding that the new contract for the fast Canadian mail service would be given to the Allan Line.

Opposes Divorces.

Rome, Dec. 12.—Pope Pius counsels all Catholic journals to adopt a sympathetic attitude toward the new movement in the Anglican church to restrict the obtaining of divorces. His holiness urges that the general effect of convincing mankind of the necessity of a law maintaining the indissolubility of the marriage tie would be greatly to promote the happiness of the human race.

A subscription started in St. Petersburg in aid of the Hull victims of the Baltic fleet has so far netted \$615. And somebody would better watch even that.

SHIPPERS AROUSED

Navy Department Denounced by American Owners

TRANSPORTATION BIDS ASKED

Government Calls for Bids for Carrying Coal From Atlantic Ports to the Philippines.

New York, Dec. 12.—The bureau of Equipment of the navy department has called for bids for the transportation, in either American or foreign vessels, of 20,000 tons or less of coal from any of several Atlantic ports to the Philippines. Blank forms for bidding have also been mailed to prominent shipping firms in this city.

No official announcement whether the bids opened by the navy department on Nov. 15 have been rejected or not has been received by shippers in this city, but from the fact that the department is again calling for bids, and this time making the competition expressly open to both American and foreign ships, it is generally concluded that the government has definitely decided not to use American ships. This conclusion is reached not only by American vessel owners, but by the representatives of foreign ships as well, for on the Maritime Exchange foreign ship agents yesterday taunted the "American crowd" with being unable to secure even the business of their own government. The Americans had failed this time, they declared, and they always would.

Agents and owners of American vessels, whether bidders on the last call or not, were outspoken in their denunciation of the navy department and the administration for having refused to avail itself of the opportunity to give some assistance to American shipping. It was persistently asserted, whether with accuracy a New York Commercial reporter was unable to ascertain, that the question of awarding the contract on the bids of Nov. 15 and to an American firm, in accordance with specifications, had been passed by Secretary Morton up to President Roosevelt himself, for a determination whether the government was willing to pay the difference between American and foreign transportation rates.

Decisions Reached.

New York, Dec. 12.—Peace agreements between the government of Paraguay and the revolutionists were fixed for signing Sunday on board the Argentine cruiser El Plata, according to a Herald dispatch from Buenos Ayres.

John B. Gaona will be elected president. It is said he has accepted the office only after much entreaty by partisans of the government as well as by the revolutionists. Gaona is a banker and business man who has never taken part in politics. The cabinet will be formed of members of both parties.

Woman Lawyer Dies.

Chicago, Dec. 12.—Mrs. Mary M. Negus is dead of heart failure at her residence here. Mrs. Negus was born in 1838 at Hayesville, N. Y., and came to Chicago 25 years ago. About five years later she graduated from the Northwestern Law school and was among the first women to practice law. She went to California with her husband some years ago and became interested in ranch property of considerable extent, some of which she retained to the time of her death. Mrs. Negus had a national reputation as a temperance worker.

Religious Promotion.

New York, Dec. 12.—Commissioner George Kilby of the Salvation Army, accompanied by eight members of his family, has arrived here on his way to Chicago, where he will take up headquarters as commander of the western department. The commissioner has had charge of the Salvation Army work in South Africa since before the beginning of the Boer war. Army work there since the conclusion of hostilities, he said, had received a new lease of life but is not yet wholly in good order because much army property was lost.

Immigrants Inspected.

New York, Dec. 12.—Secretary Victor H. Metcalf of the department of commerce and labor and Frank P. Sargent, commissioner general of immigration, have spent a day watching the conduct of the immigrant station on Ellis island. There was a great rush, owing to the arrival of many liners delayed by the storm and the arrivals were nearly 5000, an unusually large number for Sunday. The secretary visited every department and even tasted the food given to the immigrants. He took special notice of the treatment accorded to them and stated that he was greatly pleased over the kindness shown the foreigners.

Correct Clothes for Men

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—Lord Chesterfield to his son.

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Startling Evidence.

Fresh testimony in great quantity is constantly coming in, declaring Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption Coughs and Colds to be unequalled. A recent expression from T. J. McFarland Bentorville, Va. serves as example. He writes: "I had Bronchitis for three years and doctored all the time without being benefited. Then I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery, and a few bottles wholly cured me." Equally effective in curing all Lung and Throat troubles, Consumption, Pneumonia and Grip. Guaranteed by Chas. Rogers Druggist. Trial bottles free, regular sizes 50c. and \$1.00.

Worst of All Experiences.

Can anything be worse than to feel that every minute will be your last? Such was the experience of Mrs. S. H. Newson, Decatur, Ala. "For three years" she writes, "I endured insufferable pain from indigestion, stomach and bowel trouble. Death seemed inevitable when doctors and all remedies failed. At length I was induced to try Electric Bitters and the result was marvelous. I improved at once and now I'm completely recovered. For Liver, Kidney, Stomach and Bowel troubles Electric Bitters is the only medicine. Only 50c. It's guaranteed by Chas. Rogers Druggist."

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